

# TRÜBNER'S AMERICAN, EUROPEAN, & ORIENTAL LITERARY RECORD

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Europe, Africa, and the East;

WITH OCCASIONAL NOTES ON CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE.

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## ORIENTAL MANUSCRIPTS.

ONE of the most important collections of Oriental MSS. ever brought to Europe is the collection which belonged until recently to King Theebaw of Burma, which had been handed down to him as an heirloom by his ancestors or predecessors, and which has now been placed probably for many centuries to come on the shelves of the Library of the India Office. It is due to the energy and influence of Dr. Rost that this invaluable treasure was secured for the Library entrusted to his care, and he has thereby at once succeeded in making the India Office Collection of Pali and Burmese MSS. by far the most important one in existence. He can boast of having added to an already extensive and valuable collection over 500 beautiful and costly MSS., of which about 200 are Burmese and the remainder Pali. While many of the Burmese MSS. are translations of, or commentaries on, Pali books, others are peculiarly interesting particularly because they treat almost exclusively of the modern history of Burma and Siam. They for the first time give an insight into the peculiar views held by the Burmese people and its leaders of their European visitors. And dating as they do from the time of Portuguese settlements when men like John de Silveyra and Ferdinand de Morales represented European culture in those regions, when men like Ferdinand Mendez Pinto were the channel through which Europe received its knowledge of the East, they must be regarded as historic authorities of the greatest value.—The Pali MSS. belong to the Buddhistic literature of the South; they are on religious, medical, grammatical, astronomical, and historical subjects, and give in themselves an ample encyclopædic view of the early Buddhistic literature. There are several MSS. of the Mahawansa, Dīpawansa, Buddhawansa, all of which are excessively rare, some even unique. They are of value also far above other Pali MSS. in European libraries on account of their gorgeous get-up, suited according to Oriental tastes for the personal use of the King. They are written in black

on a richly gilt surface of the toughest of palm-leaves, being protected against the destroying influence of time by a thick and glossy coat of varnish. Their titles are mostly woven into the silk ribbon fastening them together between wooden covers, and their general appearance is one of truly royal magnificence.

ANOTHER collection of Oriental MSS. recently acquired by one of our large public libraries consists of about 450 Sanskrit MSS. which have lately been incorporated into the Bodleian Library at Oxford. They were collected in India some years ago by Dr. Hultsch, and are remarkable chiefly on account of a number of Jaina MSS. among them. These are of course most interesting, and will possibly attract the attention of scholars to a field of Oriental research hitherto sadly neglected. The Jain scriptures are certainly of greatest importance, and it is to be wondered at that only one\* of the 12 angas has up to the present found either editor or translator in Europe. In India, these latter were printed some years ago at the expense of a learned Raja, who issued the whole of the angas under the title of *Ṛiyuta Rāya Dhanapati Simhaji Bahādur ke Agama Sangraha*. To the Prakrit text was added a Sanskrit commentary and a Gujarati "Balavabodha," and the different volumes were eagerly sought for both in India and in Europe. European research would in our opinion throw new light on these highly important documents, and reveal an altogether new aspect of early Buddhism. It is to be hoped that the authorities of the Oxford University will see their way to give to the public annotated editions of some of the most important of their Jaina MSS. which would—we doubt not—be welcomed heartily by every scholar.

\* Dr. Jacobs edited the *Achārāṅga* for the Pali Text Society, and translated it in the *Sacred Books of the East*.



FROM Calcutta we hear through the Annual Address of the President, Mr. E. T. Atkinson, B.A., that the Asiatic Society of Bengal are doing all in their power to make their valuable collection of Oriental MSS. available for scholars. Catalogues are being prepared, and it is in contemplation to publish some of the MSS., or at least selections from them. The enterprising spirit in which the Society does its work is best shown in the President's own words. "Among the matters," he says, "that engaged the attention of your Council during the year was the furtherance of a scheme for furnishing aids to the study of Tibetan. The very valuable collection of Tibetan MSS. presented to the society by Mr. B. H. Hodgson has been rearranged and the contents collated by a Buddhist Lama from the Tibetan district of Hor-tol. The catalogue formed is in the press and will be printed under the supervision of Babu Pratāpa Chandra Ghosa. Steps have also been taken to publish, without, at present, any attempt at editing, selections from these MSS., and thus open this long-neglected source of knowledge to European students. There are few in Europe and fewer still in India who make Tibetan a special study, and the principal reason is, I believe, the absence of texts. The first difficulty was the want of a good fount of type, for that used by Csoma de Körös for his dictionary and grammar is the only one at present in India, and is in some respects defective. Mr. Thomas, our printer, has liberally come forward and relieved us from this difficulty by ordering a special fount from Europe, which is expected to arrive at an early date. Many of these Tibetan texts were translated from the original Sanskrit by Indian pandits in the tenth to the twelfth centuries; and, I am told, appear to possess a purer and more correct version in some cases than can now be found in India, while for others the Sanskrit original is unknown. Babu Sārat Chandra Das, who has lately been elected an Associate member of this society on account of his contributions from Tibetan literature, has in hand a list of the philosophical and other technical terms in Tibetan and their equivalents in Sanskrit and in English. For this purpose he has been allowed to make use of the very valuable MS. of Csoma de Körös in the possession of the society, which contains the Tibetan terms with Sanskrit and English equivalents of a very large vocabulary of such words,

all of which is in Csoma's own handwriting. He has also had at his disposal a rare Burmese MS. on the same subject from our library. The work is a much needed one, for these terms have hitherto proved more or less of a stumbling-block to Tibetan students, and a collection like that proposed should be of much service to them. The Burmese and Siamese MSS. in the possession of the society have also been examined, and the former have been catalogued by a Burmese monk from Upper Burma. The list formed is in the press, and will be brought out under the supervision of Moungh Hla Oung. Our new pandit is engaged on the completion of the catalogue of our Sanskrit MSS. and a Maulvie from the Madrassah has similarly been employed on the list of our Arabic and Persian MSS. under an arrangement made by Dr. Hoernle."

WRITING of Sanskrit MSS., we are reminded of Prof. A. Weber's excellent Catalogue of Sanskrit and Prakrit MSS. in the Royal Library at Berlin, which might well be set up as an example of what a catalogue of Oriental MSS. ought to be: precise, complete, and trustworthy. The second volume has lately reached us, and delighted us again through the superb way in which the learned Professor has done his work. It is, in fact, impossible to exaggerate the excellent qualities of his compilation, which makes one long for more and more from the same hand. What an enormous boon it would be, to have similar catalogues of the collections above referred to! Let us hope that Prof. Weber's example will encourage others to follow in his footsteps, and to present to the world catalogues of other important collections equally precise, complete and trustworthy.

WE have received "Notices of Sanskrit MSS." by Rājendra Mitra, LL.D., C.I.E., etc., etc., Vol. 8 Parts 1 and 2 (Nos. 20 and 21). These two parts contain Nos. 2553 to 2889—three hundred and thirty-seven manuscripts examined during 1884-5, 1885-6. We have also received Pandit Sudhākara Dvivedi's Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscripts in the North-West Provinces, Part 10, published at Allahabad; and also, published in the same city, Pandita Devīprasāda's Catalogue of Sanskrit Manuscripts in the Oudh for the year 1885.

## RECENT BOOKS ON AFRICAN LANGUAGES.

MANUEL DE LA LANGUE TIGRAI. Parlée au centre et dans le Nord de l'Abyssinie. Par J. Schreiber. 8vo. pp. vii. and 83. Vienna, 1887.

THIS book was written by the author, a German, in the French language, in the hope of attracting a larger number of readers: the author is a Roman Catholic priest of the Order of the Lazarites: he collects his information from brethren of his Order, who have been missionaries in Abyssinia. He sweeps away as of little value the translations of the Four Gospels, published by the British and Foreign Bible Society, and the Grammar of Professor Prætorius based upon that translation. He does not pretend that his own production is complete. It is the first attempt at a grammatical dissection of a language by a totally unpractised hand, and those who pass grammatical brochures by the score under their eyes know that it is the peculiar sin of all grammatical neophytes to ignore totally, or damn, the work of their predecessors, more especially if they are the work of rival religionists. The Tigrāi is a Semitic language, better known as Tigrinna, and is a sister language of the Tigré, which is represented by the translation and grammar above alluded to. Both are the offspring of the old Ethiopian or Gíz. It is the vernacular of some of the provinces of Abyssinia; but the better known Amháric, also a Semitic language, is the vernacular of other provinces and the Court language. The author maintains that the Tigrāi occupies a middle position grammatically betwixt the Tigré and Amháric. The Tigrāi again has several dialects; it is totally devoid of literature. The author makes use of the old Ethiopic syllabary for his treatise; as the language had no written character of its own, it would have been expedient to have adopted a modified form of the Roman alphabet, and not have placed a modern illiterate language into the bondage of an archaic and obsolete syllabary. There is no Syntax, no Vocabulary, and no Texts; so the Manual falls far short of a complete compilation.

LINGUA AFAR NEL NORD-EST DELL' AFRICA. Grammatica, Testi e Vocabolario. Per GIOVANNI COLIZZA. 8vo. pp. xii. and 153. Vienna, 1887.

THE very dedication of this volume to a philologist of the first class, and the presence of Texts, and a Vocabulary, make us feel that we are handling the production of a superior Grammatical proficient. It is by an Italian in the Italian language, who had sat at the feet of Professor Leo Reinisch, who is facile princeps in the languages of North-East Africa. The tribe of Danákil, who are also called Afar, occupy the shores of the Red Sea, and adjacent islands betwixt the Bay of Adulis and the Gulf of Tajirah. Danákil is the name imposed by outsiders: the people call themselves Afar, and this is one of the origins of the name "Africa" applied to the Continent, and they live a life of political independence. Professor Reinisch had studied the language of one of the tribes on the spot, and when Signor Colizza was sent by the Italian Government to study the Hamitic languages of Abyssinia under the guidance of Reinisch, he was able to compile this Grammar as the result of a careful study of texts taken down from word of mouth by Reinisch in Danákiland. In the general scramble for Africa, Italy had laid hands on Assab, a port of the Red Sea, and this has led the Government to send young Italians to acquire the language of the neighbouring tribes with a view to annexation. Signor Colizza has turned out a most complete work, which is a veritable addition to science.

DIE BILIN SPRACHE. VON LEO REINISCH. 2ter Band. Wörterbuch der Bilin Sprache. 8vo. pp. vi. and 426. Wien, 1887.

THIS is the second volume of the study of the great Master himself on the language called Bilin, spoken by the Bogos tribe, on the northern frontier of Abyssinia; this province was the bone of contention betwixt Abyssinia and Egypt, and has lately been ceded to the former. Swedish and French missionaries have been at work here, and by the labours of Reinisch on the spot our knowledge of the language is complete: it belongs to the Hamitic group of languages in Abyssinia. The vocabulary is a masterly production, and is in the German language.



## LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

**KATYAYANA'S SARVANUKRAMANI.**—A new part of the *Aneodota Oxoniensis* has just reached us. It contains Kātyāyana's Sarvānukramanī of the Rīgveda, with extracts from Shadgurusishya's Commentary, entitled *Vedārthadīpikā*, edited with critical notes and appendices by A. A. Macdonell, M.A., Ph.D. In preparing it the editor used nine different MSS., four of which are contained in the India Office Library, two each in the Bodleian and the Deccan College Libraries, and one in the Royal Library at Berlin; and he at the same time carefully collated the quotations in the Sāyana. It is as thoughtfully prepared, and betrays as thorough a mastery of the subject, as its three predecessors, with which it forms Vol. I. of the Aryan Series. The book is dedicated to the memory of Theodor Benfey, who is described as the editor's first teacher in Sanskrit.

**BENGALI BOOKS.**—A Catalogue of Bengali Printed Books in the Library of the British Museum has just been issued. It is edited by Mr. J. F. Blumhardt, formerly of the Bengal Civil Service. Mr. Blumhardt has found some difficulty in dealing with the authors' names, one actually giving the name of his caste "Bose." He has appended an index of Oriental titles, which gives another chance of finding a book that cannot be found under any author's name.

**BIBLIOTHECA ORIENTALIS.**—Mr. J. A. Stargardt sends us a very interesting Catalogue of Oriental Books, which he calls 'Bibliotheca Orientalis.' It contains over a thousand numbers, and includes many valuable and scarce Oriental books at reasonable prices.

**NEPAUL.**—The Bombay Education Society's Press have issued a reprint from the *Indian Antiquary* of "Twenty-three Inscriptions from Nepāl," collected at the expense of H.H. the Nawāb of Junāgadh. Edited under the patronage of the Government of Bombay, by Pandit Bhagvānlal Indrājī, Ph.D., etc. Together with some considerations on the Chronology of Nepāl, translated from Gujarātī by Dr. G. Bühler, C.I.E. These "Inscriptions" are very valuable from the light they throw on the history of Nepāl. Facsimiles of the older inscriptions executed by Mr. W. Griggs, of Peckham, are contained in the book.

**THE AO NAGA LANGUAGE OF SOUTHERN ASSAM.**—Prof. John Avery of Bowdoin College, sends us a paper on the language of the Ao Naga people, which appeared in the "American Journal of Philology," vol. 7, No. 3. The Naga tribes inhabit the range of mountains which lie south of the Brahmapootra Valley. The Ao's, living on the southern edge of the Sibsagor District, near the Dikho River, have more than forty villages, and their number is estimated at about one hundred thousand souls. Their language possesses two dialects, Zwingi and Mungsen, and the former being the dominant one, Prof. Avery treats of it in his paper. Sir George Campbell in his specimens of the languages of India gives one which he calls "Deka Haimong," which appears to be the Zwingi of the Ao Nagas, but up to the present time no one had published a grammar or vocabulary, properly so called, of the Ao Nagas.

**"THE BABYLONIAN RECORD."**—Prof. T. De Lacouperie, assisted by Messrs. Theo. G. Pinches, W. C. Capper, and H. M. Mackenzie, has issued already four numbers of a magazine which commenced last November (David Nutt, 270, Strand), entitled "The Babylonian and Oriental Record," a Monthly Magazine devoted to the Antiquities of the East. The four numbers before us contain a very fair assortment of Assyrian subjects, and Assyrian study of late years has been followed with considerable attention and interest; but we scarcely see how matter can be found specially relating to it to fill the pages of a monthly periodical for any length of time. Any periodical on these lines has a formidable rival in the "Transactions of the Society of Biblical Archaeology," which will be sure to attract all the cream of the contributions available, and has a good amount of subscribed funds to support it. We note Nos. 3 and 4 of the "Babylonian Record" contain articles 1 and 2 on Iranian Studies by Prof. D. C. Harlez, of Louvain. In the first part Iranian is spelt Eranian, and in the second Iranian, a variation in spelling which, in the interests of uniformity, might well have been

avoided. The "Saturday Review" of Feb. 19th contains an amusing article on a "Babylonian Seal" described in Number 4, February, giving the Babylonian idea of a disembodied spirit.

**THE PLATONIST.**—Mr. Thomas N. Johnson has recommenced publishing this periodical with No. 1, of Volume 3, dated January this year. This is now in 8vo. size. The paper, though it has a good face, might with advantage be stouter, which would prevent the print being seen through from the other side of the page.

**VOLAPÜK.**—Professor Kirchhoff's abridged grammar of Volapük, the new universal language, has been adapted to the use of English-speaking people by Karl Dornbusch. This language has been formed after twenty years' laborious research by M. Schleyer, of Constance; he has named it Volapük from *pük* 'language,' and *vol* 'universe.' It has no artificial genders, a single conjugation, and no irregular verbs. The roots of its words have been borrowed from all the languages of Europe, the adjective, verb, and adverb are regularly formed from the substantive, and have invariably the same termination.

**MODERN METHODS OF ILLUSTRATING BOOKS.**—A new volume of "The Book-Lover's Library," edited by Mr. H. B. Wheatley and published by Mr. Elliot Stock, deals with "Modern Methods of Illustrating Books." It is quite up to the accustomed standard of this charming series, which both as regards its contents and its form is pleasing and instructive for 'book-men.'

**ARGOT AND SLANG.**—A Dictionary of French Argot and English Slang has just been prepared by Prof. Barrère. It is a careful and painstaking compilation, and fully deserves the success we understand it has already met with. It is printed on hand-made paper, with a good margin, and is at present limited to a large-paper edition of 250 copies. Intending purchasers will do well to apply soon for the few copies left.

**THE OVERLAND MONTHLY.**—To those interested in the progress of California we can heartily recommend the "Overland Monthly," the Literary Magazine of the Pacific Coast published in San Francisco by the "Overland Monthly Company" (London, Trübner & Co.). The January and February numbers are full of good articles. Mr. Warren Olney treats on the "Present Status of the Irrigation Problem," and Mr. W. J. Corbet, M.P., raises the question, "Is Ireland a Nation?" In the former number and in the latter Mr. Marks contributes an article on "Water Rights in Interior California"; Mr. John S. Hittell writes on the "Plains and Mines in 1841-50"; Mr. Shosuki Sato, a young Japanese professor, treats on "Japanese Farmers"; Mr. W. C. Barnes writes of the "Apache Country"; and Mr. Leonard Repp's "Mining Camp" serial runs through both numbers. This Magazine only needs to be better known in Europe to command a larger circulation.

**THE STONE LECTURES.**—Messrs. A. D. F. Randolph and Co., of New York, announce the publication within a few weeks of a volume entitled "Abraham, Joseph, and Moses in Egypt." This volume comprises the "Stone Lectures" for 1887 on the "Stone Foundation" in Princeton Theological Seminary (America), given during February by Rev. Alfred H. Kellogg, D.D., of Philadelphia, who has devoted several years to a special study of Egyptology in its biblical relations. The lectures are six in number. The first two discuss the chronologies of the period under review, Egyptian and Hebrew, and in the remaining lectures a comparison of the two is instituted, in order to ascertain the points of contact of the two histories. Lecture 3 treats of Joseph in Egypt. Lecture 4, of Abraham and Moses. Lecture 5, the "Place of the Exodus in Egypt's history," and Lecture 6, the Pharaoh of the Exodus. There are numerous references and notes; also "a comparative chart of the two chronologies," specially prepared to illustrate the last four lectures. There is added an essay on the question whether the proper name "Hebrews" is met with on the monuments. Dr. Kellogg accepts results reached by the "Egypt Exploration Fund," but feels obliged to depart from the ordinary view of the period in a number of important particulars. He claims that his view taken as a whole, adequately fits the Hebrew to the Egyptian story.



**BIBLIOTHECA HAMILTONIANA.**—This is a list of books written by, or relating to, Alexander Hamilton, compiled by Paul Leicester Ford. The edition is limited to 500 copies; it is in large octavo, printed on one side only, from the Knickerbocker Press, uniform with Mr. Lodge's edition of the works of Hamilton. This work includes lined titles of the various editions of every publication relating to Alexander Hamilton: all his own writings, including his Treasury Reports and Circulars; his joint writings with others (such as the Federalist, Letters of Camillus, etc.), the Lives, Eulogies, and Sketches of, Replies to, Attacks on, and other writings, making in all more than 300 titles, with the libraries in which they may be found, and annotations, concerning the rarity, history, origin, and such other facts as add to the interest of each work.

**THE FAMILY.**—The family is probably the foundation of all human society. From it springs the tribe or clan, and eventually the nation; though there are those who hold opposite views to this, and think that the family may be the product of partial civilization, and that the original state of the human race was communistic. It seems to us more feasible that communistic ideas arose out of the family, and are attempts to grasp a state of civilization which human nature can never hope to attain to. These moot points will be found discussed in "The Family: an Historical and Social Study," by Charles Franklin Thwing and Carrie F. Butler Thwing, Boston, Mass. (Lee and Shepard). This book is a thorough investigation of the family, and all trustworthy authorities on the subject have been consulted.

**DREAMS.**—Mr. Thomas Wentworth Higginson has published a curious little book with Messrs. Lee and Shepard, Boston, Mass., called "The Monarch of Dreams." The hero of the book, Francis Ayrault, makes experiments in dream-land, but we do not think the result made him the monarch but rather the slave of dreams. The story finishes up with "bearing the lost opportunity of his life away—away—away."

**LIBRARY JOURNAL.**—The publisher of the Library Journal makes the following important announcement respecting the Library List to appear in the Record Number of the Library Journal for 1887 (January and February double number), which will contain a full list of all American public Libraries of 1000 or more volumes, arranged by States, but classified by type according to size (50,000, 10,000, 5000, or less volumes), and with the name of the librarian or reporting officer. These features will not appear in the Government list to be issued later in the year. A select list of leading English and foreign libraries, possibly also a list of important American private libraries may be added. The number will contain other important features, including an account of the library work of the Bureau of Education, with portraits of General Eaton and Commissioner Dawson. Probably also a reprint of the American Library Association cataloguing rules, its specifications for library binding, etc. This list will be invaluable to publishers and dealers in books, stationers, manufacturers, etc. The number will not be sold separately (except at a greatly advanced price), but is included in the subscription price of the Library Journal for 1887, with the Index to Periodicals and Literary News as supplements, five dollars. If issued separately, later, the list will be priced at three dollars. Subscriptions should be forwarded promptly. As this number will be in constant use in libraries and elsewhere, its advertising space (\$25 per page) will be especially valuable. Publishers' advertising is not solicited for regular numbers of the Library Journal. Address the Library Journal, 31, Park Row (P. O. Box 943), New York; or, Trübner & Co., 57 and 59 Ludgate Hill, London.

**THE BOOK PRICES CURRENT.**—This is the title of a monthly record of the prices at which important and scarce books have been sold at auction. It is edited and compiled by Mr. W. E. Morden, of Tooting Graveney, Surrey, and published by Mr. Elliot Stock, of 62, Paternoster Row, at twenty-five shillings and sixpence per annum. Such a publication has long been a desideratum needed by booksellers, librarians, and bibliophiles. We note from the prospectus that the editor intends to prepare an annual index which will enable any one to identify any particular book sold, ascertain the price it fetched, and who bought it.

**AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGY.**—It is proposed to begin the issue at an early date of a quarterly journal to be entitled the American Journal of Psychology. Edited by G. Stanley Hall, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Pedagogics in the Johns Hopkins University. The records of psychological work of a scientific, as distinct from a speculative character, have been so widely scattered as to be largely inaccessible save to a very few, and often to be overlooked by

them. Several departments of science, often so distinct from each other that their contributions are not mutually known, have touched and enriched psychology, bringing to it often their best methods and their ripest insights. It is from this circumstance that the vast progress made in this department of late years is so little realized, and that the field for such a journal is so new and the need believed to be so great. The Journal will contain:—Original contributions of a scientific character. These will consist partly of experimental investigations on the functions of the senses and brain, physiological time, psycho-physic law, images and their association, volition, innervation, etc.; and partly of inductive studies of instinct in animals, psycho-genesis in children, and the large fields of morbid and anthropological psychology, not excluding hypnotism, and the field vaguely designated as that of Psychic Research; the finer anatomy of the senses and the central nervous system, especially as developed by the latest methods of staining, section, etc. Translations from foreign languages, digest, reviews, etc. It will be published quarterly in numbers containing from 60 to 100 pages at \$3 per annum in advance, or single numbers \$1.

**ENGINEERING.**—At the close of 1886 two engineering monthly journals ceased to exist, the "Railroad Journal," and "Van Nostrand's Eclectic Engineering Magazine." The periodical to succeed them will be a monthly entitled "The Railroad and Engineering Journal," published in Murray Street, New York, under the editorship of Mr. N. N. Forney, a gentleman well known in the engineering world; his "Catechism of the Steam Engine" being a "standard classic" amongst engineering men. The numbers of the new journal before us show, we think, very successful efforts to fill the place of the two defunct periodicals it succeeds.

**ECONOMICS.**—What ought to prove a very useful serial in this utilitarian age made its appearance last October entitled the "Quarterly Journal of Economics." It is published by Mr. Geo. H. Ellis, of Boston, Mass., for Harvard University, and is intended to aid investigators and students in the economic sciences. It will be published on the 15th of October, January, April, and July respectively. The first number contains articles by Chas. F. Dunbar, Arthur T. Hadley, and S. Dana Horton. The Appendix contains Wagner "On the Present State of Political Economy," and on "Prices in Ireland."

**THE REPORT OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY.**—We have received the Annual Report of the Hon. W. L. Trenholm, the Comptroller of the Currency of the U.S. for 1886. This gentleman is the successor of Mr. H. W. R. Cannon, whose report we noticed in Nos. 219-20 of our RECORD. The Report before us is the Twenty-fourth, and Mr. Trenholm in it reviews the practical working of the present national currency and bank laws, and throws out suggestions for the regulation of the banks when the present United States debt has been paid off and all its notes withdrawn from circulation, so that the banks shall still retain their present status and not revert to the old confused state they were in prior to the civil war.

**UNITED STATES COMMISSION OF FISH AND FISHERIES.**—Referring to our notice in our last Number, of Part Eleven, we have now received Part Twelve for 1884 of the Fish Commission Report, containing an "Inquiry into the Decrease of Food-fishes," and on the "Propagation of Food-fishes in the Waters of the United States."

**THE U.S. TENTH CENSUS.**—Volume 18 of the Tenth Census contains Part 1 of the Social Statistics of Cities, containing two parts in itself, the New England and Middle States, and the Southern and Western States. It is edited by Geo. E. Waring, jun., who is an authority on Drainage and Sanitary Science.

**THE AMERICAN BOOK AND NEWSPAPER TRADE.**—A very important reference work for booksellers and others connected with the trade is "Caspar's General Directory of the American Book, News and Stationery Trade, wholesale and retail, including the Publishing, Subscription, Retail Book, Antiquarian, News, Map, Art, Music, Manufacturing-, Jobbing-, and Retail Stationery, Blank Book and Paper Manufacturing Business, and General Jobbers in above lines, in the United States and Canada." Announced by Mr. C. N. Caspar, Milwaukee, and Mr. R. R. Bowker, New York.

**HISTORY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.**—(Bancroft's Works, Vol. XXXII.)—British Columbia was earliest known as part of the North-west Coast; its mountains were sometimes called New Caledonia; its rivers and bays were called after the Scotch and English explorers who first visited them, some retaining the names of the yet earlier Spanish navigators.



In common with the other volumes of this series, most of the facts and incidents herein presented are absolutely new, no writer having had access to the many volumes of manuscript and documentary matter. In the opening chapter are described the physical features of the country; the following chapters relate partly to the establishment and progress of the various settlements, from the founding of Fort Camosun or Victoria, to the close of the Hudson's Bay Company regime. They contain an account of the operations of the company's factors, their business methods, together with some mention of the generous hospitality for which its servants were noted. Then follow the colonial period and the inauguration of responsible government, with Sir James Douglas as the first Governor of Vancouver Island and British Columbia. In 1856 came the first rush of gold-seekers, valuable deposits being discovered in the bed of Fraser River and elsewhere. To gold mining with its attendant vicissitudes, hardships and adventures, several chapters are devoted, followed by one on

coal-mining; more than fifty thousand tons were exported to Mexico and the United States as early as 1874. To the San Juan Island difficulty, a chapter is also devoted; and then comes the union of the two colonies, and their subsequent admission as a province of the dominion of Canada. The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the disputes and difficulties to which the project gave rise, have also been described at length, for the dilatory action of the Canadian ministry in this matter well nigh caused a separation between the Dominion and her youngest offspring. In the concluding chapters are described the settlements and industries of the province, nothing being omitted serving to lay before the reader the present condition of this highly cultivated and progressive community.

BOOKS RECEIVED.—China Review, Sept. and October, 1886.—Bible Work at Home and Abroad, Vol. 3, 1886.—Journal of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, for 1884, N.S. Vol. 19, Part 2.

## In Memoriam.

WYLIE.—The death of Mr. Alexander Wylie on the 6th of February, will awaken feelings of sadness in a wide circle of friends in Britain and China, and also throughout Europe, and in the United States. Born in London of Scottish parents in 1815, he had nearly completed his 72nd year; but for some years he had been totally blind, and latterly had been reduced, without suffering much pain, to a state of great weakness both of body and mind. His death was a release, for which he was waiting in the full assurance of Christian faith. The writer of this imperfect notice of his labours and tribute to his character may be allowed in the outset, for the sake of brevity, to speak of himself in the first person. Having returned from Hongkong to England for a time in consequence of illness, I was living in London in 1846. It was there that I first saw Mr. Wylie. He called on me with a letter from a friend, which told me that my visitor was a cabinet maker, whom he knew well, of great intelligence and other high qualities, who had been occupying himself lately with the study of Chinese. I asked the stranger what had made him take up that language, when he said that having picked up, the winter before, at an old book-stall, a copy of Premare's *Notitia Linguae Sinicae*, he had learned Latin sufficiently to be able to read it, was much interested with it, and wished to obtain some guidance in prosecuting the study of Chinese. There was a New Testament in Chinese on the table. I opened it, and he read with tolerable accuracy a column or two, and translated them with an approximation to correctness. His pronunciation was not exact, but he had got hold of the principle of relative position by which the meaning of the symbolic characters in their combination is determined. I asked him where he had got a dictionary, and he said he had not got one. "How, then, did you learn the names and meanings of those characters?" "Partly," he said, "from Premare, and I have tried to make a list of characters and their signification for myself. I got a New Testament from the Bible Society. Turning to the 4th Gospel, I knew that the first verse must contain the name for 'God' twice, and the character for 'Word' three times. I put these down, and went on to determine others in the same way." He had brought with him some tracts which he had got from the Religious Tract Society: trying him with one of these, he was not so successful as with the New Testament, but still did wonderfully. I arranged for him to come to me, and get a lesson occasionally. When he left me, I felt sure that if the way could be opened for him to pursue the study under favourable conditions, he was a man who would greatly distinguish himself in the field of Chinese scholarship. The result of that interview was, that soon afterwards he was studying the work and management of a printing office under the auspices of the late Sir Charles Reed; and in 1847 he proceeded to China to take the superintendence of the printing-office of the London Missionary

Society at Shanghai; which he conducted efficiently till 1860. While doing so, he prosecuted earnestly the study of Chinese, and was more abundant in many other labours. He wrote out translations for his own use of many of the Chinese classics; acquainted himself with French and German so that he could get the benefit of works in them on Chinese subjects; brushed up his knowledge of mathematics; and gave attention to Mongolian and Manchurian, and I think also other adjacent languages. His profiting soon appeared. There are in the Bodleian Library copies of "Arithmetic for the Young," prepared by him in 1853; translations of De Morgan's Algebra, Loomis's Algebraic Geometry, and Differential and Integral Calculus, all of 1859; Euclid's Elements of Geometry (the first six books by Pere Ricci, and the others added by Mr. Wylie), in 1865; and Herschel's Outlines of Astronomy, in 1874. The work by which Mr. Wylie is best known in Europe is his "Notes on Chinese Literature," giving an account of more than 2000 different works in all departments of that vast field, based mainly on the great *Catalogue Raisonné* of the Imperial Library, completed in 1782, and on which a committee of more than 300 dignitaries and scholars of the Empire had been employed for many years. Returning to England in 1861, Mr. Wylie transferred his services from the London Missionary Society to the British and Foreign Bible Society, as the agent of which he returned to China by St. Petersburg and through Siberia, in 1863. The next fourteen years of his life were spent in the service of the Bible Society, organizing plans for the circulation of our scriptures, and he himself undertaking long and sometimes perilous journeys in the prosecution of them; of these no account can be attempted in this brief notice, nor can reference be made to the many essays, papers, and translations which he prepared for various societies on almost every subject of antiquarian, historical, and scientific research connected with China. He returned to England in 1877 very much on account of his failing eyesight, for which no remedy could be found. And the issue, as has been stated at the commencement of this notice, was his total blindness. It is to be hoped that a memoir of him may appear, and an account be given of all his writings. His shortest essays were marked by thorough investigation, clear statement, and conclusive reasoning. In social life he was eminently "blameless and harmless," helpful to very many, never seeking his own things, but only the promotion of the great objects to which he had consecrated his life. He made many friends and not a single enemy. Few have more fully realized the ideal of the self-made man.—J. L.

YOUMANS.—The scientific world has lost a prominent member by the death of Prof. Ed. Youmans, who died in New York, on Jan. 18th, from disease of the lungs. Professor Youmans was born on the 3rd of June, 1821, at Coeymans, Albany Co., New York, and an attack of ophthalmia in his younger days rendered him nearly blind, and from which he never thoroughly recovered. In spite of this disadvantage, Prof. Youmans managed to become a most accomplished chemist, and to aid students of that science by the text-books he published. His chief works and compositions were a "Chemical Chart," "Class-book of Chemistry," "Alcohol and the Constitution of Man," "Handbook of Household Science," "Correlation and Conservation of Forces," "Observation on the Scientific Study of Human Life," and "Culture demanded by Modern Life."



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